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being all present. It contains occasional angular and rounded fragments of quartz, sometimes of gneiss or some other material, scattered through it."

This drift-sheet was described as extending from the Sierras down over the tertiary deposits occupying the low grounds along the shore. The speaker mentioned the existence of cretaceous beds near Bahia, some fish remains which he found having been identified as cretaceous by Professor Agassiz, and he spoke of the evidence of recent changes of level along the Brazilian coast. He had examined the stone reefs at Pernambuco, Bahia, St. Cruz, and Porto Seguro, and described them as sea beaches which had been solidified by the lime of sea-shells, and which, having been separated from the shore by the encroachment of the sea, now extend along it like linear walls of rock. At Porto Seguro he discovered quite an extensive reef of coral, which he was able to trace southward to the Abrolhos Islands. This reef he saw at a very low tide exposed off Porto Seguro over an area several miles long. The corals grow up sometimes in isolated clumps like mushrooms, and the natives call them *chaparovens*. He spoke of the interest attaching to a still further exploration of this reef, for it is an entirely new ground, and would certainly afford some new and interesting facts to science. He announced that it was his intention to spend his summer vacation on the Abrolhos, taking with him a party, which he hoped would be fitted out by the new Natural History Section of the Cooper Institute.

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#### BOOKS RECEIVED.

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*Quarterly Journal of Science.* London. July, October, 1867.

*Naturalist's Note Book.* London. January to November, 1867.

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*Chemical News and Journal of Physical Science.* New York. September, October, November, 1867.

*Lettre de M. Agassiz à M. Marcou sur la géologie de la vallée de l'Amazone, avec des remarques de M. Jules Marcou.* (*Extrait de Bulletin de la Société géologique de France*, 2e ser. t. xxiv.) 1867. 8vo, pp. 3.

*Notes of Observation, to ascertain the ultimate Distribution of the Nerves of Gustation. Their ultimate distribution not terminal.* By Rufus K. Browne, M. D. 8vo, pp. 11. New York, 1867.

*Illustrated Catalogue of the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy. I. Ophiuridæ and Astrophrytidæ.* By Theodore Lyman. II. *North American Acalephæ.* By Alexander Agassiz. Royal 8vo. Cambridge, 1865.

*Conchological Memoranda, No. 2.* (From Proceedings California Academy of Natural Science, August 20, 1867). 8vo, pp. 7.

*Cosmos. Revue Encyc. Hebdomadaire des Progrès des Sciences.* Vol. 6. July 6 to October 26, 1867; November 2, 9, 16, 23. 8vo. Paris.